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# Planning Associate Planners / Analysts (AALP82018) August 29, 2018

**Company/Agency:** Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

**Job Category:** Associate

**Experience Required:** Minimum of 2 years professional experience (excludes

internships, fellowships, graduate or classwork)

**Salary Range:** \$54,000 - \$66,933

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is seeking to hire full-time employees at the Associate level in the Local Planning Department, with an emphasis on long range planning, research and analysis, economic development and market analysis, or municipal/county government.

CMAP is the Chicago region's official comprehensive planning agency integrating planning for land use and transportation in the seven counties and 284 communities of northeastern Illinois. The agency and its partners are developing ON TO 2050, a new long-range comprehensive regional plan to help the region implement strategies that address community, prosperity, environment, governance, and mobility through inclusive growth, resilience, and prioritized investment. At CMAP we recognize that one of our greatest assets is our people. And a rich diversity of cultural backgrounds, life experiences, ideas, and lifestyles represented by CMAP employees will allow us to provide the best possible service to our region. For more information on CMAP and ON TO 2050, visit www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050.

#### **Position Purpose**

CMAP seeks Associates to be part of a large department and provide intermediate technical and professional support of CMAP's long-range comprehensive regional planning, the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program, and research, data analysis, and mapping work to contribute to the agency's long-range and local planning efforts. Planning projects may include intermediate level comprehensive plans, corridor or subarea plans, zoning revisions, studies of special topics such as housing or economic development, and similar planning activities. Research and Analysis projects may include intermediate level GIS mapping, data processing, quantitative spatial analyses, and the development and documentation of new business intelligence tools and products, and methodologies for quantitative analysis.

Associates are primarily expected to perform intermediate technical work researching, analyzing and writing technical planning documents and supporting public planning projects and initiatives, and related work. Associates may also be asked to contribute to other CMAP activities, including but not limited to the implementation of ON TO 2050, as well as the agency's general activities in policy, programming, and planning. Work is typically performed under the moderate supervision of a Planning Principal. This position requires travel

throughout the region and candidates must have the ability and willingness to work with communities across the region.

Salary range is from \$54,000 - \$66,933. Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and for detailed information about our benefits, please go to <a href="https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers#benefits">www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers#benefits</a>.

#### **Essential Functions**

- Completes assigned tasks and projects; and manages workload and schedule to achieve desired outcomes and meet required deadlines.
- Effectively communicates with supervisors.
- Establishes and maintains positive relations with coworkers, and when applicable with external partners, stakeholders, and communities.
- Attends internal department meetings and internal and external committee meetings, outreach events, and workshops as assigned.
- Conducts intermediate analyses and investigations and prepares reports, maps and graphics to effectively convey the findings.
- Conducts intermediate research, data collection and analysis, data mapping, graphics, and written plan content to planning projects, and completes other project related tasks.
- Coordinates one or more projects using the Agency's project management methodologies and tools to manage project scope and achieve time, budget and deliverable objectives. Coordinates and monitors project personnel, resources, start-up, timeline, budget, deliverables and conditions to ensure timely delivery of quality service; coordinates project sponsor, stakeholder and partner relationships and coordinates outreach.
- Completes other assigned duties as required.

#### Additional Essential Functions for Associates with planning emphasis:

- Conducts intermediate research, analysis, and writes content for reports regarding new
  policy directions and/or recommendations for transportation investments, land use
  regulations, and other government actions that affect CMAP's regional planning work.
- Completes other intermediate work plan items as assigned, such as research and development of new planning topics and approaches, plan implementation, or local capacity building.
- Conducts intermediate public outreach for projects including coordinating, planning, and participate in facilitating meetings with external partners, stakeholders, and the general public; responsibilities may include preparing agendas, meeting notices, meeting notes, and / or minutes and correspondence.

Additional Essential Functions for Associates with analyst emphasis:

- Conducts intermediate processing tasks with large urban datasets, develops innovative G.I.S. scripting & analytical solutions, and performs other complex research and data analysis work to inform local planning decisions.
- Conducts intermediate work to automate the production of data tables, maps, graphs, and other business intelligence products.

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• Conducts intermediate mapping and analysis tasks using ESRI GIS software or comparable, such as QGIS.

## **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Demonstrated ability to contribute to complex projects and work as part of a team is required.
- Comprehensive skills in the use of personal computers, the internet, associated apps and software packages, hardware, and peripheral equipment.
- General skills in utilizing spreadsheets, database tools, and geographic information systems (GIS).
- Ability to work with limited supervision.
- Ability to prepare intermediate technical information and to effectively communicate that information clearly to external and internal audiences orally, in writing, and in presentations.

# Additional Knowledge, Skills and Abilities for Associates with planning emphasis:

- General knowledge of urban and/or regional planning practice and an understanding of environmental, social, land use, and transportation considerations in planning.
- General skills in principles of research, data collection and analysis, and technical writing.
- General ability to document research, work collection, and processes.
- General ability to read and understand complex plans and drawings.
- Ability to prepare intermediate technical information and to effectively communicate
  that information clearly to external and internal audiences orally, in writing, and in
  presentations.
- General ability to analyze and systematically compile technical information and to prepare technical reports.
- Ability to conduct intermediate public outreach for projects including coordinating, planning, and participating/ facilitating meetings with external partners, stakeholders, and the general public; responsibilities may include preparing agendas, meeting notices, meeting notes, and / or minutes and correspondence.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with community or civic leaders, public sector officials and staff, partner agencies and organizations, and the general public.

### Additional Knowledge, Skills and Abilities for Associate with analyst emphasis:

- Some knowledge of urban and/or regional planning practice and an understanding of environmental, social, land use, and transportation considerations in planning.
- Some ability to read and understand complex plans and drawings.
- Thorough ability to perform mapping and analytical tasks using ESRI GIS, QGIS, or comparable software package.
- Some ability to perform data processing or analytical tasks using Python, R, SQL, and/or other scripting tools.
- Thorough skills in principles of research, data collection and analysis, and technical writing.
- Thorough ability to document research, work collection, and processes.
- Thorough ability to analyze and systematically compile technical information and to prepare technical reports.

• Thorough skills in working with large urban datasets, development of innovative GIS analytical solutions, and other complex research and data analysis work.

# **Education and/or Experience Qualifications**

A Bachelor's degree in Planning, Public Policy, Geography, G.I.S., Computer Science, Statistics, or a related discipline, plus a minimum of 2 years of professional experience (excludes internships, fellowships, graduate or classwork) in planning, policy analysis, or related field is required. A Master's degree in Planning, Public Policy, Geography, G.I.S., Computer Science, Statistics, or a related discipline plus a minimum of 2 years of professional experience in planning, policy analysis, or related field is preferred. Multilingual preferred.

## How to Apply

Qualified candidates should apply online at <a href="https://cmap.hyrell.com">https://cmap.hyrell.com</a> to be considered.

## **Posting End Date**

This posting will close on September 29, 2018.

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning is an Equal Opportunity Employer.